81/hazard

Blasters Training Program for Independent Contractors

U.S. Department of Labor
Mine Safety and Health Administration
National Mine Health and Safety Academy
1991

Instruction Guide Series

MSHA IG 81

Hazard Recognition and Training Handbook

READEX FICHE best copy available

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Blasters Training Program for Independent Contractors

U.S. Department of Labor
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1991

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MINE SITE ARRIVAL

Once on mine property, go directly to the office or warehouse and park your vehicle in a designated area.

Have the receptionist or mine official assist you in filling out the sign-in sheets. He/she will put you in contact with the person you are to see and/or will provide directions to the area where you need to be.

HEALTH AND SAFETY STANDARDS

Usually hard hats, safety glasses and steel toe boots are required in all mine areas except the parking lot and general office area of the mine. Certain areas of the mine are posted as high noise areas. Use hearing protection in these areas. If you will be exposed to welding, grinding or other work that may require specialized protective equipment, contact the mine health and safety representative.

Immediately notify the area supervisor of all accidents! Always report any damage to equipment, mine property or vehicles immediately.

No matter where you are on mine property, be alert and abide by all warning signs. If you are not sure about something, always ask before going ahead. This may help prevent an incident or an accident.

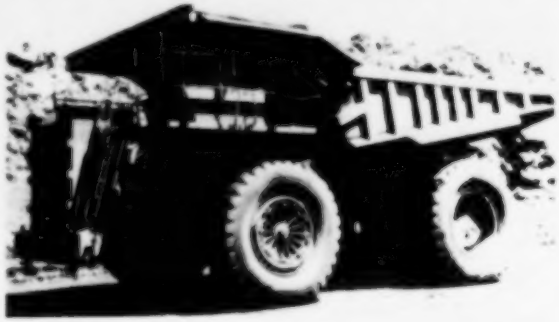
REMEMBER

- **BE ALERT**
- **HEED ALL SIGNS**
- **IF YOU ARE UNSURE - ASK QUESTIONS BEFORE PROCEEDING**

HAZARD RECOGNITION AND AVOIDANCE

All mine operating equipment has the right-of-way over passenger vehicles. Haul trucks normally have the right-of-way over all other vehicles. Don't follow haul trucks too closely, and pass them with extreme care. Never pass mobile equipment on the right side or on inclines.

Follow posted traffic signs, particularly the speed limits on haul roads and in congested areas. **DRIVE DEFENSIVELY!**



When traveling on haul roads, match your speed to the road conditions and your visibility, but do not exceed the posted speed limit. Haul roads are watered to keep dust down and this can make them temporarily slick and hazardous. **You must have authorization to travel on all mine roads except the entrance road!**

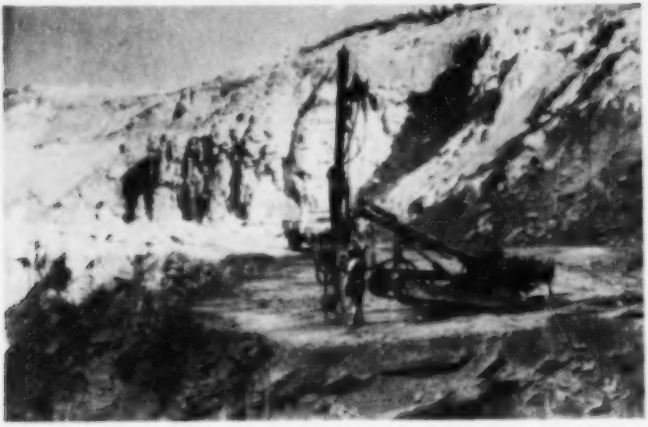
In congested areas, particularly around the shop, be alert for heavy equipment. Loud beeps, whistles or a regular horn blowing are heavy equipment warning signals. You should be especially alert if you hear these sounds.

Always make sure miners and equipment are clear before backing up your vehicle.

PIT AREA

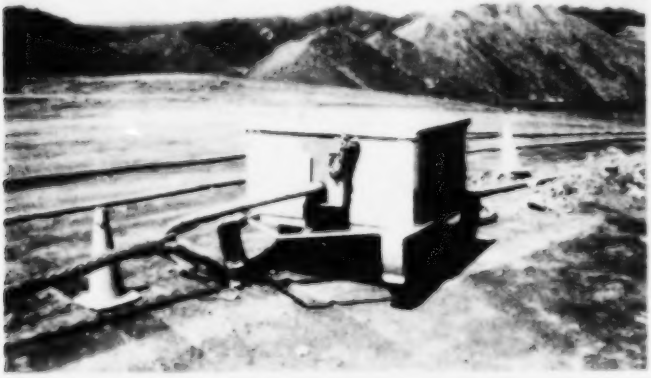
Before traveling to the pit area, visually check the traffic patterns of the trucks and heavy equipment operating in the area. When ascending or descending inclines, maintain a safe distance between your vehicle and other mine equipment. All persons should remain in their vehicle unless directed otherwise.

When in the pit area, be alert for highwall and spoil instability. Never park or walk directly underneath the highwalls or spoils as they can fall on you. Also, be aware of the highwall edge when you're on the bench. A good rule is to never turn your back on the highwall.



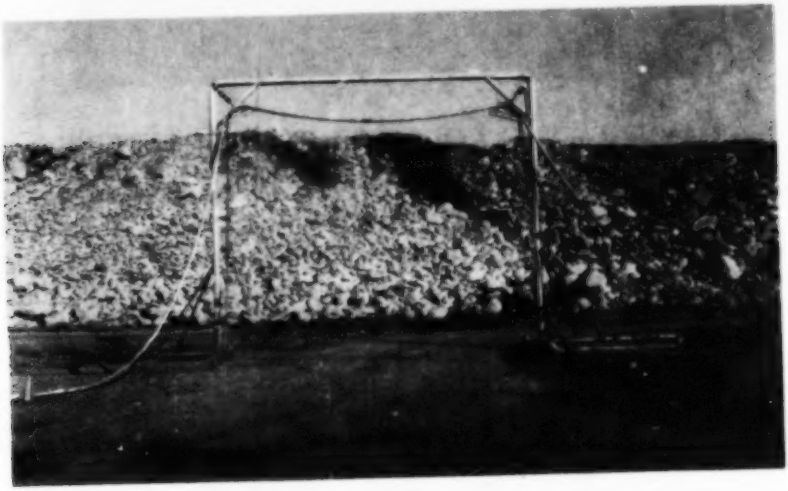
DANGER - YOU COULD BE ELECTROCUTED!!!

Stay clear of all electrical installations.



Never cross electrical trailing cables except at appropriate cross-overs.

Cross only at overhead crossings, or where the cables have been trenched, buried or protected.



Cables can be easily mistaken for a pump hose. Make sure you know what you're crossing before you cross.

BLASTING

DO NOT TRAVEL IN THE BLASTING AREA UNLESS AUTHORIZED.

DANGER
BLASTING AREA
PRE-BLAST WARNING:
THREE (3) SHORT WARNING SIGNALS OF FIVE (5) SECONDS DURATION WITH FIVE (5) SECONDS BETWEEN EACH SIGNAL 3 MINUTES PRIOR TO BLAST
ALL CLEAR SIGNAL:
ONE (1) LONG WARNING SIGNAL OF TWENTY (20) SECONDS DURATION

SOME TYPICAL BLAST WARNING SIGNALS

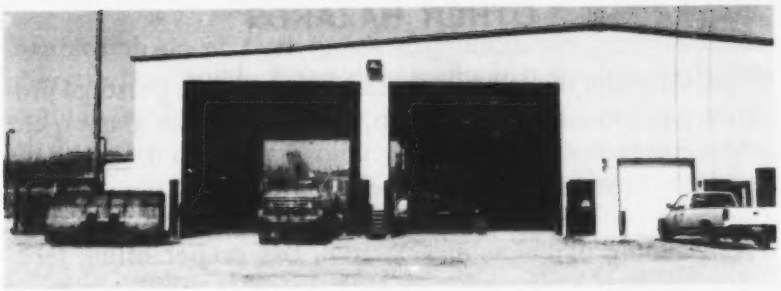
Three (3) short horn blasts are usually given immediately before a detonation.

If you hear this signal, leave the blast area immediately.

A steady horn signal indicates a successful shot and the area is clear again.

Familiarize yourself with the blasting signals established at the mine.

Never proceed through any blocked, ribboned or barricaded areas. These barricades are there to protect you. Look for posted signs warning of holes loaded with explosives. Loaded-hole areas are off limits to mobile equipment and all other vehicles. Only equipment involved in the drilling, hole loading, and blasting is allowed in the area.



SHOP AREA

If you are authorized to be in the shop area, be alert for overhead cranes in operation and never walk under suspended loads. Watch for slippery floors and tripping hazards. If you must be in areas where welding and cutting are underway, shield your eyes, and never look directly at the welding arc.

In the event of an emergency, follow the directions of the area supervisor. In case of a fire, use the available fire extinguishers and call for help. Observe all **"NO SMOKING"** signs.

OTHER HAZARDS

All persons who unload trucks must wear suitable personal protective equipment, such as gloves, hard hats, safety glasses, etc. Before you go into a loading or an unloading area, check with the supervisor or warehouse personnel.

When loading or unloading material, use proper lifting techniques and get help for heavy or bulky loads.

For heavier loads, use a fork lift. Make sure the load is secured before you start the lifting process.

Never climb on or work on moving machinery, such as belts, rollers and conveyors. Keep clear of them as you can easily get caught in moving parts.

EMPLOYEE BEHAVIOR

Horseplay

Horseplay is dangerous and can cause injury. It should be avoided at all times.

ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES, ILLEGAL DRUGS, AND FIREARMS

Alcoholic beverages, illegal drugs, and firearms are not permitted on mine property.

MINE SPECIFIC HAZARDS

1. What side of the road should vehicles be driven? (Left-hand or right-hand)

2. What safety equipment is required? Where?

3. What are the posted speed limits at this mine?

4. What vehicles have the right-of-way and when?

5. What are the mine's blasting signals?

6. What areas are off-limits to vendors?

7. Where can you cross trailing cables?

8. Are there areas at the mine where mobile radios can't be used?

ADDITIONAL MINE SPECIFIC HAZARDS

(To be determined by the mine operator)

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

The information you have covered on the previous pages is mine policy and you must adhere to it at all times. Failure to abide by or comply with these could result in the refusal of access to mine property. Ignorance of these policies is no excuse.

Employees of outside contractors will comply with all company, State and Federal regulations while on mine property. You may also be required to attend safety training classes, depending on the frequency of your visits and/or the length of your work assignment. Contact the health and safety representative at the mine for specific information.

HAZARD TRAINING CERTIFICATE

(To be kept in company files)

I certify that I have read and understand the information relating to hazard recognition and mine policies, and will fully comply with the safety regulations presented here.

Trainee's Signature _____ Date _____

Company _____

This hazard training is good for one year from the date issued. It is **your responsibility** to renew this training when it expires. Failure to do so could result in refusal of access to mine property.

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HAZARD TRAINING CERTIFICATE

(Issue to person who has been trained)

(Name) _____

(Mine) _____ (Firm Represented) _____

I have received the hazard training as prescribed by this mining company and understand this card expires twelve (12) months from the date of training.

(Date) _____ (Trainee) _____ (Supervisor) _____